

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois	:	
	:	
Petition for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, pursuant to Section 8-406.1 of the Illinois Public Utilities Act, and an Order pursuant to Section 8-503 of the Public Utilities Act, to Construct, Operate and Maintain a New High Voltage Electric Service Line and Related Facilities in the Counties of Adams, Brown, Cass, Champaign, Christian, Clark, Coles, Edgar, Fulton, Macon, Montgomery, Morgan, Moultrie, Pike, Sangamon, Schuyler, Scott and Shelby, Illinois.	:	Docket No. 12-0598

**STAFF OF THE ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION’S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF
ITS VERIFIED MOTION TO REVISE THE CASE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

NOW COMES the Staff of the Illinois Commerce Commission (“Staff”), by and through its undersigned counsel, and in support of its Verified Motion to Revise the Case Management Plan of January 25, 2013, (“Motion”) states as follows:

1. Ameren Transmission Company of Illinois (“ATXI”), Stop the Power Lines Coalition (“Coalition”), Tarble Limestone Enterprises (“Tarble”), JDL Broadcasting, Inc. (“JDL”), Deborah D. Rooney (“Rooney”)¹, and Magdi, Barbara, and Adam Ragheb (“Raghebs”) filed timely responses to Staff’s Motion. With the exception of Rooney, each responding party has supported Staff’s Motion and proposed an alternative schedule.

2. Staff appreciates ATXI’s attempt to formulate a schedule that seeks to accommodate Staff’s concerns, and regrets ATXI’s perception that Staff’s proposal,

¹ As of February 5, 2013, Rooney’s Response does not appear on e-Docket, though it was served upon parties via email on February 1, 2013. Despite its inability to verify whether Rooney’s Response was timely filed, Staff will address the arguments made therein below.

which removes one week from each side, “is unfair.” Staff carefully crafted this proposal such that the time for each deadline would be congruent to the time allotted to under the case management plan ordered on December 14, 2012. Under the December 14 schedule, ATXI was allotted the same amount of time between the filing of Staff/Intervenor direct testimony and its own rebuttal testimony (21 days) as Staff proposes in its Motion. ATXI patently agreed that it would not be prejudiced by having 21 days to file rebuttal testimony when it accepted the December 14 schedule and argued in previous motions that the original schedule should be kept in place.

3. Furthermore, Staff cannot accede to ATXI’s proposed schedule, as the hearing dates straddle a weekend, and would accordingly increase costs for all parties who must travel to Springfield to participate, by essentially causing parties to travel to Springfield twice or stay an additional two days over the weekend.

4. Staff does not support alternative proposals made by the Coalition, Tarble, JDL, the Raghebs, which move the hearing date to or after May 20, 2013. This adversely affects the allotted time for this matter to be considered by the Administrative Law Judges and the Commission, and accordingly, should be rejected.

5. While they do not object to moving the hearing back to May 20, 2013, the Coalition, Tarble, and JDL object to revising the schedule as proposed by Staff. As these parties originally intervened in this matter on December 21, December 10, and December 17, 2012, respectively. They have already seen an extension of over 40 days in the original deadlines, and as such, would not be prejudiced by adoption of Staff’s proposal.

5. Rooney has filed a response requesting Staff's request to revise the Case Management Plan of January 25, 2013, be denied. Rooney also requests that ATXI's "compromise proposal" be denied.

5. Rooney's argument that she is prejudiced by inexperience is without merit. Rooney's Petition to Intervene clearly states that she is represented by counsel. As such, this argument should be rejected.

6. Staff's Motion to Revise the January 24, 2013, Case Management Plan is not being brought for purposes of delay, does not unfairly prejudice any party, and preserves the same amount afforded to all parties under the original December 14, 2013, with the exception of a seven-day reduction in time for Staff an Intervenor direct. It is the most fair proposal that shares the most support, and accordingly, should be granted.

WHEREFORE Staff of the Illinois Commerce Commission respectfully requests that its Motion to Revise the Case Management Plan be granted in accordance with its proposal outlined in its original motion.

Respectfully submitted,

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